

THE record

THE CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN NEWSLETTER

April 2011

Keeping Prescription Drugs Out of the Water

A report released in 2010 by the National Center for Health Statistics brought to light the hefty increase in prescription drug use occurring throughout the country since 1999. The report stated that there has been a 10% increase in Americans who took one prescription in the past month; a 20% increase in those who took two prescriptions per month; and a 70% increase in people taking five or more prescription drugs per month.

So, it is not surprising that remnants of these drugs are finding their way into lakes and streams across the country. At this time, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the amounts are not a threat to humans as they are showing up in trace amounts, substantially below even a single pill.

Prescription drugs are getting into our water in two main ways, our current disposal methods and through medication residue passing out of the body and into the sewer lines.

Due to concerns about increasing pharmaceutical pollution, it is no longer

advisable to send your unused pills whirling down the toilet or to place them into a trash bag. The best method for disposal is through incineration.

On April 30, the West Michigan Take Back Meds Program is taking part in a national drug take back event sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency to raise awareness of proper disposal for medications. Wyoming residents are invited to bring their leftover medications to the Wyoming Police Department or a participating pharmacy between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Dropping off unused medications is not limited to this event, West Michigan residents can bring their leftover medications to participating police stations and pharmacies throughout the year, during each locations' regular business hours. The Wyoming Police Department has a steel lock box available for the public to walk in and drop their items.

For more information on drop off locations visit, www.wmtakebackmeds.org.

Gypsy Moths in Full Retreat

Thanks to two successful years of spraying for gypsy moths, this year the City of Wyoming learned that it is unnecessary to spray for these foliage eating pests.

The completion of the 2011 survey by Aquatic Consulting Services, LLC, the organization hired to survey for gypsy moths, found that due to a combination of the City's efforts and the gypsy moths natural cycle there would be no benefit to spraying in 2011. Gypsy moths have been sufficiently eradicated and the company says that no problem is anticipated.

Aquatic Consulting Services will continue to monitor the area for any changes in the gypsy moth population, but they believe the moths are in full retreat. Gypsy moths follow a cyclical nature, peaking and then declining for a year or more. It is not possible to predict how long the retreat cycle will last.

Gypsy moths became a nuisance in 2008, rapidly eating foliage throughout the city and leaving droppings on patios, cars, playground equipment and other outdoor surfaces. In 2009, in response to residents' concerns, the City adopted a Gypsy Moth Suppression Program, which involved spraying Bt on affected areas. This process was repeated in 2010.

Bt is a microorganism that produces spores as it grows. When the Gypsy moth larva eats the spores, its digestive system becomes paralyzed and the larva dies within a few days of ingestion.

Residents who remain concerned and wish to conduct individual efforts can obtain various products to treat Gypsy moths from local garden stores.

MAYOR'S

Message



With the snow behind us we can get into the full swing of outdoor activities in our city. It's a great time to take advantage of the beauty of our parks, through our Parks & Recreation Department activities, summer concerts or just relaxing under a shade tree.

Our parks bring to mind the term sustainability, not only the sustainability of our natural resources, but also the financial sustainability of our city and its services. Your city council and staff work regularly at assessing our financial picture and our city's sustainability into the future. Is it more sustainable and

efficient to provide a service or to contract it out to the private sector?

Rest assured, as we face tough decisions, I am dedicated to quality over quantity. I will continue to only support services that we can provide at the highest quality. Please continue to be involved and informed.

Mayor Jack Poll

LIBRARY NEWS ADULT BOOK CLUB - We have a friendly, informal discussion on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. April's book will be Cry the Beloved Country by Alan Paton. May's book will be Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Mary Ann Shaffer. TEEN POETRY CONTEST – KDL'S 8th annual poetry contest for teens. Visit the library or its website, www.kdl.org, for the rules and entry forms. Submissions accepted April 1 - 30. Grades 6-12. KID AND TEEN CRAFT SALE – Find amazing pieces of art and wonderful crafts at the Kid and Teen Craft Sale. Kids and Teens: if you are interested in having a booth at the sale, stop by the library for an application. Registration is required. May 24, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

PARKS & RECREATION The Wyoming Parks and Recreation Department's Teen Council has formed a Relay for Life team! The American Cancer Society Relay For Life® will be held at Lamar Park in Wyoming on May 13th & 14th. This inspiring overnight event unites the entire community in celebrating those who have had cancer, remembering loved ones lost and providing an opportunity to fight back against the disease.

HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS The City of Wyoming recently introduced a new e-Applicant System for all job applicants. Users will be allowed to build and maintain a secure applicant profile. When jobs are posted, those interested will simply need to click on the posting, update their profile, complete some additional information and submit their online application. The e-Applicant System will be used for internal, external and seasonal employment. It is available at www.wyomingmi.gov. Open positions can be found on the Human Resources Department page.

Stop Renting and Become a Homeowner

Through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program the City of Wyoming has purchased and renovated Wyoming homes that are now being offered to income qualified families at a 20 percent discounted sale price.

These homes are available for viewing through the newly created "Home Ownership Programs" button on the City of Wyoming website, www.wyomingmi.gov, under Featured Links.

The "Home Ownership Program" page also answers frequently asked questions about the program and provides information on basic eligibility requirements. All homes on the site have been renovated, are energy efficient

and are code compliant.

Interested families should contact the Planning Office for additional information.



City Council Election Process Begins

The following City of Wyoming elected offices will be on the November 8, 2011 ballot:

Councilmember at Large- four year term
Councilmember 2nd Ward - four year term
Councilmember 3rd Ward - four year term

The City Charter requires that candidates be registered electors of the City of Wyoming, and a resident of the City for at least one year prior to the filing deadline.

Candidate packets with required forms and instructions are available in the City Clerk's Office. The filing deadline is 4 p.m. on May 10, 2011. If more than twice the number to be elected file in any office, that office will have a primary election on August 2, 2011.

Call 530-7296 for more information.

Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department	530-7250
Public Works	530-7260
Utilities	261-3550
Planning & Community	
Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer	530-7280
Utility Billing	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	647-3980

Meetings

City Council Meeting | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

City Council Work Sessions | on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Planning Commissions Meetings | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Zoning Board Of Appeals | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Parks & Recreation Commission | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conf. room.

Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,
Councilmember-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Councilmember-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Councilmember-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Councilmember

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Councilmember

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Councilmember